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RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 9544  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 1907  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 3284  
RUEHKS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 0124  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 002340

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [JA](#) [RS](#) [GG](#)

SUBJECT: JAPAN CALLS ON INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT  
GEORGIA'S SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

REF: A. STATE 89769

[1](#)B. STATE 90978

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Classified By: Charge d' Affaires, a.i. James P. Zumwalt. Reasons 1.4  
(B) (D)

[1](#)1. (C) Summary. Tokyo will continue to call on the international community to respect Georgia,s sovereignty and territorial integrity, foreign ministry officials told Charge during an August 26 meeting. Japan supports the EU-negotiated six-point agreement calling for Russia,s withdrawal, but is reluctant to criticize Moscow for violating the agreement because Tokyo is - sure what is happening on the ground.8 Japanese officials believe Russia should be given a chance to &behave correctly within the G8 framework,8 and that &there is not necessarily an urgent need to exclude Russia from the G8.8 MOFA officials ask that G7 members set a &reasonable8time for the Foreign Ministers, telephone call set to take place later this week.  
End Summary.

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Japan Concerned About Russian Actions  
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[1](#)2. (C) Charge delivered reftel demarches regarding the Russia-Georgia conflict and possible recognition of Abkhazia and South Ossetia to MOFA European Affairs Bureau Director-General Yasuaki Tanizaki on August 26. Tanizaki expressed agreement with the points raised by Charge, noting in particular Tokyo,s support for Georgia,s sovereignty and territorial integrity. The DG drew attention to statements made by Foreign Minister Masahiko Koumura indicating Japan would continue its policy of respecting Georgia,s sovereignty and territorial integrity. According to Tanizaki, Deputy Foreign Minister (DFM) Kenichiro Sasae reviewed Tokyo,s concerns about the Russia-Georgia situation during a G7 Political Directors' telephone call on August 25.

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Russia-Georgia Conflict: Diplomatic Engagement

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13. (C) Tanizaki provided the following brief responses to points raised by Charge:

-- Withdrawal of Russian Forces: Japan supports efforts undertaken by the EU Presidency and calls on Moscow to implement the six-point agreement calling for Russia,s withdrawal. At the same time, Tanizaki said &it is not easy for Japan to say something8 about reports that Russia has breeched the agreement because Tokyo is - sure what is happening on the ground.8

-- Humanitarian Corridor: Tanizaki agreed the impact on the humanitarian situation &will be considerable.8

-- OSCE Monitoring: Tanizaki expressed support for OSCE efforts to monitor the situation, noting the OSCE was the organization best positioned to cool tensions.

-- Human Rights Violations: Japan supports efforts to curtail human rights violations, but believes the G7 must be prepared for Russian counter-arguments calling for punishment of those involved in atrocities in South Ossetia, according to Tanizaki. Moscow will raise the issue in an attempt to &balance8 concerns of Western nations.

-- Assistance to Georgia: Tanizaki noted Japan has disbursed USD 1 million in assistance to the region. Charge expressed appreciation for Japan,s contribution, noting the need for humanitarian aid had not been fully assessed, and further contributions may be required.

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Recognition of Abkhazia and S. Ossetia  
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14. (C) Tanizaki said DFM Sasae explained Tokyo,s position on recognition during the August 25 G7 Political Director,s telephone exchange. Japanese officials believe G8 members should give Russia time to abide by the withdrawal agreement, but &there is not necessarily an urgent need to exclude Russia from the G8.8 Russia should be given a chance to &behave correctly within the G8 framework,8 Tanizaki continued.

15. (c) Charge relayed media reports indicating the Russian Duma is discussing a resolution calling for Moscow to recognize Abkhazia and South Ossetia. Tanizaki said Japan would view any such resolution as a serious matter. Foreign Ministry officials had met with Russia,s Ambassador to Japan to express concern. According to Tanizaki, Russian Embassy officials blamed Georgia for the conflict while providing a list of casualties caused by Georgian forces. The Russian Ambassador asked if Japan planned to take any actions to exclude Moscow from the G8. According to Tanizaki, the Russian Ambassador had complained that Japan's statements on Georgia were "unbalanced."

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Kosovo  
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16. (C) Tanizaki asked Charge to expand on statements made by State Department officials regarding Russian attempts to draw a connection between Abkhazia/South Ossetia and Kosovo. Charge outlined reftel points on Kosovo, noting the extensive, long-term effort undertaken by many nations of the international community under UN auspices. Tanizaki agreed the two situations were completely different.

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G7 FM Telephone Call  
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17. (C) Tanizaki, noting G8 Political Directors agreed to convene a G7 Foreign Minister,s telephone exchange this week, asked that Washington and other participants set a &reasonable8 time for the telephone call. According to the DG, the last FM telephone exchange occurred at midnight Tokyo time, which made it impossible for FM Koumura to participate.

MOFA hopes that Minister Koumura, as the G8 chair, would be able to participate this time. Tanizaki suggested the call time be set for early morning Washington time, (approximately 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. Tokyo time).

ZUMWALT